

## SOCIETY WEDDED TO POKER

Matrons and Maids Alike Indulge in the National Game.

## CONGRESSMEN ITS PATRONS

The Jack Pot and the Tea Pot Go Hand-in-Hand in Upper-Tendom—Society Finds Among the Experts—Poker Parties to the Suburbs—

Poker playing in Washington society amounts to a fine art.

The devotees of the game are to be enumerated in overpowering numbers among those who occupy "the social of the night."

That Congressmen should indulge in a vast amount of poker playing is not a matter of astonishment, either in or out of Washington, but that the fashionable women of the city should be given over to poker playing, with its many attendant evils, is a matter to which the thoughtful man and woman of the city should give some consideration.

Time was, of course, when our grandmothers and their grandmothers before them, played all night, indulging in the game by the light of a single candle. It would seem that the whirl of time had brought these things back again, and that the fashionable women of the city should be given over to poker playing, with its many attendant evils, is a matter to which the thoughtful man and woman of the city should give some consideration.

A few years ago, when a fashionable woman, at whose house Army and Navy officers found a favorite gathering place for playing poker, completely impoverished a young fellow, a member of the Metropolitan Club, the club rose at the audacity of the proceedings, and after compelling the woman to refund the young fellow's losses, gave him a check for \$10,000.

It caused no end of a sensation at the time, but now, when the playing was done, the woman had never been heard of again, and the young fellow, who was then a member of the Metropolitan Club, the club rose at the audacity of the proceedings, and after compelling the woman to refund the young fellow's losses, gave him a check for \$10,000.

This gossip floated to the commandant's ears, and when he learned that a. m. was the time when the members of the club left the arsenal and returned to their homes, he issued an order that after that date poker playing would be indefinitely suspended in those officers' quarters, and that visitors, however, fashionable, must leave the arsenal gates prior to 4 a. m.

The most famous rendezvous of the poker clubs of the fashionable women of this city for some years past has been at Deer Park, Md., where a large Washington contingent has always gathered. Matters finally reached a crisis, and poker playing among the fashionable at Deer Park ceased to be a habit, because of certain high handed proceedings for several nights running. The hotel proprietor then made a rule that for the remainder of that season no more delinquent games of poker were to be allowed at Deer Park. One of the ladies who was a member of the club, and who had been playing for some time, was told that she must pack her bag and baggage and remove elsewhere and not return.

Nathaniel has also been a favorite retreat for the fashionable women who play a fine game of poker. One of these Washington women, who is well known, and who has been playing for some time, was told that she must pack her bag and baggage and remove elsewhere and not return.

One of the devotees of poker gave last season a luncheon that has since become famous. She had a table set for a party of twelve, and the invitations read "From 11 a. m. to 5 p. m." All the debutantes of the season were invited, but whether or not there was a collision among the "buds" of those same girls the season's "buds" were decidedly to the fore. The story runs that the hostess made the cost of her luncheon, and 49 cents to boot, while several of her guests departed home ward after 5 o'clock with well filled pockets.

On the same track the leader of all the fashionable poker clubs in Washington, her house has for years been the gathering place of the players, and interesting stories are afloat concerning fierce games which have been played there.

On one occasion a "score" for this lady. They gravely informed her that since the passage of the law prohibiting poker playing in Washington her house had been shadowed by private detectives, with a view to raiding it and bringing the whole affair up in the police court. The result was magical. For a week or ten days thereafter the house was as dark and silent as the grave, while the poker players who had been wont to gather there in social mood fairly held their breath with foreboding. Then somehow they got out that a talk had been played upon them all by those festive Metropolitan dignitaries, and the windows were no longer darkened nor were the tea-trays cold.

Last season it became the fad for parties to go from home to Alexandria and spend the morning playing poker at one of the estates of that city. That men should go to Alexandria to indulge in poker playing was not so to be wondered at, because of the laxity of the Virginia law in regard to such matters. But that fashionable women should go to Alexandria to play poker, and spend three or four hours at poker in a cafe which in this or any other large city would certainly not be ranked as first-class, seems inexplicable. Do it they did, however, and got gossiped about to no end in consequence.

Of course, while high stakes are the rule, they do not always prevail among the fashionable. Such things have been known of an occasional party at which not a penny changed hands.

Several seasons since an all-day card party took place at the residence of a widow living on one of the broad west end avenues. Among the players was the thoughtful wife of a Senator, who is her senior by many years. The Senator's wife became so involved in the game that she was obliged to let her husband know of the state of affairs. He paid his wife's "debt of honor," but he raised a storm about it and gave the hostess a heated expression of his opinion. He threatened to make the whole affair public, anything of the kind ever occurred again. The friendship between the widow and the Senator's wife ceased from that hour.

Wanted by Philadelphia Police.

John Wenhack, a colored man about twenty-eight years of age, who is supposed to be in Washington, is wanted by the Philadelphia authorities. He stabbed a man in a drunken row and the injured party is not expected to live.

## CAN VAS KILLED

Continued from First Page.

Instance before the local magistrates at Vera Cruz.

## THE DEATH OF CANOVA.

After the Crime He Exclaimed, "I Have Fulfilled My Mission."

Madrid, Aug. 8.—After the crime had been committed the murderer exclaimed, "I have fulfilled my mission." The assassin is about twenty-eight years of age. He is of middle height and wears eyeglasses.

After his arrest he was cool and apparently unconcerned. He says frequently that he is an anarchist. He states that the anarchists of Barcelona are friendly to him. He traveled through Belgium and England, and returned to Madrid in July, after having served eighteen months' imprisonment in Lucerne for being the author of revolutionary proclamations.

He declares that he entertained no personal hatred of Senor Canovas and that his shooting him was a political act. The body of the prime minister will be embalmed and be accorded the honors of that of a marshal killed in a campaign. Preparations are being made for a tremendous demonstration.

At a late hour tonight there is no abatement of the excitement and indignation caused by the murder.

Great precautions are being taken to safeguard the passage of the royal train from San Sebastian to Madrid when the queen reenters the city.

## SENOR SAGASTA'S OFFER.

Liberal Leader Places Himself at the Order of the Queen.

Madrid, Aug. 8.—Senor Sagasta, the Liberal leader, has sent a dispatch to the government, saying with deep pain of the crime which has thrown us into mourning, I place myself at the orders of the government and the queen.

## A REMARKABLE COINCIDENCE.

Canovas Assassinated While Anarchists Were Denouncing Him.

Paris, Aug. 8.—At the moment of the assassination of Prime Minister Canovas the anarchists of this city were assembled at the Theatre de la Republique to protest against what they termed the unjustifiable severity with which they are treated in Spain. A number of violent speeches were made. One of the speakers, a Spaniard, named Marmol, demanded the death of Senor Canovas.

## CUBAN PATRIOTS REJOICE.

Gen. Sagasta Says That Canovas' Death Means Cuban Freedom.

New York, Aug. 8.—The news of the assassination of Senor Canovas was received by the Cuban colony in this city with great joy. "Weyler's reign of terror is over. Cuba is free," they cried. At the Hotel Habana, which is occupied principally by officers and those who have relatives in the army, the news was loudly cheered. People ran about the house shouting the report to those who had retired to their rooms. Cheers for Cuba libre were given.

Gen. Jello Sarracini said: "The death of Canovas brings the end of the war in sight. It is a great deal to our cause, and means as much as many months of hard fighting. Canovas' death means the downfall of the party. Sagasta will at once come into power. This sudden change of parties may cause a civil war in Spain."

Sagasta's first move will undoubtedly be to recall Weyler. In fact, Weyler's reign of terror is at an end. Martinez Campos will be sent back to Cuba, and he will carry full instructions to restore autonomy.

Sagasta will begin by offering amnesty, and he will not stop there. If it is not accepted, and the persecutions of the Campos are of no use, he will go a step further. Who knows but he may offer to give up the island at once. The man who killed Canovas little knew of the mischief he was doing Cuba and the many crimes he was committing. He has rid Cuba of two of her most hated enemies and brought the end of the war in sight. Canovas' death means Cuba's freedom.

## SAGASTA'S LIFE IN DANGER.

Anarchists Said to Have Also Determined Upon His Death.

London, Aug. 8.—The fact that the Spanish government has taken control of the telegraph wires in Spain, causes some confusion in the details of the assassination of Senor Canovas, and in the events which followed. It is variously stated that Senor Canovas was shot by a man named Espinosa, and that the assassin was a member of the Interior, who had been appointed prime minister at Lucerne.

One correspondent reports that Senor Canovas was unconscious for two hours before his death, while another declares that he died with his eyes open, and that his dying exclamation was "Espana." It was uttered because he believed that his assassin was a Cuban.

It is also reported from some sources that an attempt was made by waiters and visitors at the bath to lynch the assassin, but that he was rescued, pale and trembling by detectives.

Detectives have been present in Santa Agueda in considerable force ever since Senor Canovas went there, the government being aware that at a meeting of the cabinet, held in July, it was determined that Senor Canovas was to be murdered before August 15, and Senor Sagasta before August 20.

## DE LOME'S VAIN HOPE.

Refuses to Believe That the Premier Is Dead.

London, Mass., Aug. 8.—Senor Dupuy de Lome, the French minister, was seen at his country place in Lenox this evening. He was greatly shocked at the news of the assassination of the prime minister. He said: "I have received a long cablegram through the Spanish legation at Washington. It says that Senor Canovas was shot at several times by an Italian, but the dispatch does not say that the prime minister was mortally wounded and I do not believe he was hurt. I cannot believe that such dispatches are true. It seems impossible. I certainly would know if the prime minister was fatally wounded. The press reports are exaggerated."

Senor de Lome read to the correspondents his cablegram, received from Madrid, which had been forwarded by Count Dalmay. of the Spanish legation at Washington. It said: "Canovas was shot at several times this afternoon at Santa Agueda, near San Sebastian, by an Italian, who seems to have been arrested. The attack seemed to have been without political contrivance or premeditation. There is peace in Spain."

Senor de Lome said that this was all the information he had. He added: "The dispatch does not say that Canovas was killed. It only says that he was shot. I can expect no further information from Madrid tonight."

When asked what the political effect

would be in Spain and on the Cuban war, the minister said:

"The Queen Regent lives and rules with Canovas living; he rules if he is dead. If Canovas is dead, the queen will appoint his successor. The death of Canovas would leave the Conservative party without a leader. Canovas was absolute leader of the Conservatives, the ruling party. He stood alone, without a rival or equal in political power. His death would be an incalculable loss to Spain."

Senor de Lome said Canovas was his warm personal friend, and that their diplomatic relations had always been of the most pleasant nature.

## A TALK WITH WOODFORD.

He Says It Is Too Early to Express His Views.

New York, Aug. 8.—A London dispatch to the Press quotes Minister Woodford, en route to Spain, as saying of Canovas' assassination: "It is too soon to express any views as to the effect which the regrettable death of Senor Canovas will have upon current questions. It will not affect my movements, however, unless it becomes my duty to reach Spain as soon as possible, in order to express to the Spanish government the sympathy of the American government."

## INTERVIEW WITH VALENCIA.

Spanish Ambassador to England Upon the Assassination.

London, Aug. 8.—In an interview this afternoon the Count de Casa Valencia, the Spanish ambassador in this city, who was a brother-in-law of Senor Canovas and his intimate friend, said that he had received a brief telegram announcing the fact that Senor Canovas had been shot prior to the receipt of the message from the Duke of Tetuan. He was not then aware of the death of Senor Canovas, for he said he thought there was some hope derivable from the dispatch of the Duke, which was three days later than his private dispatch, and which emanated from San Sebastian, instead of Madrid. He said that he had wired asking for further information, but had received no reply. He added:

"It seems to me that there is something very reassuring in the sentence in the Duke's message about tranquility being maintained, which certainly appears to show that the assassin's object had been fully carried out."

## A MESSAGE FROM TETUAN.

Says the Assassination Is Without Any Political Significance.

London, Aug. 8.—The Spanish embassy in this city has received a telegram from the Duke of Tetuan, which, translated, reads thus: "The prime minister, who was staying at the Sulphur baths of Santa Agueda, has been the object of an infamous criminal act. An individual who appears to be a Cuban, who was also staying at the establishment, fired several shots from a revolver at Senor Canovas, inflicting three wounds. The criminal was taken in the very act. He protests that he had no accomplices. Senor Canovas' first move will undoubtedly be a political significance whatever. Perfect tranquility reigns in the whole of Spain, and there is not the least symptom of any alteration of state affairs."

A telegram from Lyons, dated this morning, expressed the opinion that last week an interview with an Italian anarchist who declared that an anarchist blow at Senor Canovas had been long prepared and that an opportunity was only awaited to deliver it.

## LONDON PRESS COMMENTS.

The Assassination Regarded as a Heavy Blow to Spain.

London, Aug. 8.—The Standard, commenting on the assassination of Prime Minister Canovas, says that foreign powers and the revolt in the Spanish colonies will probably regard the murder as evidence of a new order of things, and of hostility to the constitution and government than really exists.

"They will see in the assassination that Spain is the prey of internal dissensions, and, therefore, less to be feared in such a conflict as she has been engaged in. Cuba of two of her most hated enemies and brought the end of the war in sight. Canovas' death means Cuba's freedom."

## THE EFFECT UPON CUBA.

Possible Influence of the Assassination Upon the War.

The death of the premier, Canovas, when taken in connection with the policy he was pursuing with reference to Cuba, is a very important event. It is a blow to the policy of the Spanish government, and it is a blow to the policy of the Cuban government. It is a blow to the policy of the Spanish government, and it is a blow to the policy of the Cuban government.

It was, of course, desirable that an expression of opinion on the death, or rather its effect, should be had from members of the Cuban Junta, in this city, of which Senor Quesada is in charge, and Mr. Albertus was secretary. Both of these gentlemen are out of town, and will not return here for a few days yet.

The view of Col. Aguirre, who is a native-born patriot, are given below.

Senor Dupuy de Lome, Spanish minister, and most of his staff were not in the city, the minister being at Lenox, Mass., for the summer.

The members of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate who have given this matter most attention are also not in town just now. Representative Hitt, however, is in town, and is a member of the committee. He is a member of the committee, and is a member of the committee.

It may be interesting to relate, now, briefly the recent history of Senor Canovas. He was the leader of the Conservative party, enjoying the full confidence of the Queen Regent, and in full sympathy with her policy. He was a member of the cabinet, and was a member of the cabinet.

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The Duke of Tetuan with a member of the Liberal party. As a result of that encounter the Liberals refused to participate in the Cortes. This precipitated a crisis, and the Queen Regent summoned Senor Sagasta to a conference. Sagasta insisted upon the retirement of Tetuan, and also, it is understood, upon the retirement of Weyler. The Queen, after careful consideration and a conference with the premier, in whom she had the fullest confidence, refused to submit to the demands of the Liberals.

The failure of Weyler's recent campaign for which so much was promised and expected, had put Weyler in bad odor with the minister, and it is stated that his recall was certain if a Spanish general of sufficient rank and reputation could be found willing to take his place.

It is very probable that the death of the premier, even should he be succeeded by another Conservative, will result in the recall of Weyler. It may be remarked, however, that while parties are sharply divided, the very fact makes it more difficult to reach a decision.

He was then named successively, governor of Cadix in 1855, director general of the administration in 1856, and under secretary of state for the interior in 1861. In 1865 he was appointed minister of the colonies in the cabinet presided over by Gen. O'Donnell. It was then that Canovas revealed his superiority over most of the Spanish statesmen. At that early date he showed that he looked upon the colonial problem as one whose solution was most pressing, but this very fact makes him more responsible before history for his failure in solving it, although more than

## SKETCH OF THE DEAD PREMIER.

A Prominent Figure in Politics for Over Forty Years.

Don Antonio Canovas del Castillo was born at Malaga in 1828. His father was a school teacher and his mother a washwoman. He entered public life as editor of La Patria, an organ of Senor Rios Rosas, an organ of Senor Rios Rosas, an organ of Senor Rios Rosas.

The Chronicle considers the heinous act a dire blow at the cause of freedom. It will, it says, rouse all the forces of reaction and will be the cause of a new era of reaction. It will be the cause of a new era of reaction, and it will be the cause of a new era of reaction.

The Daily Mail says: "The assassin of Spain may have often blundered in dealing with the colonies, but he cannot be reproached for his attitude to foreign nations. A diplomatist who could guide his country so admirably through its difficulties, arising from the overbearing and impermanent attitude of the United States deserves warm praise for this feat alone."

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Canovas proposed in 1855 to establish reforms in the Antilles, and to that effect he convoked what was called the junta de informacion, which met at Madrid from 1857 to 1867. The Cuban delegates to the junta expressed the gravity of the situation and urged the adoption of certain reforms. Their advice was totally ignored and the result was the Cuban revolution of 1868.

It has not been definitely determined whether or not Canovas was always faithful to Queen Isabella. It was accused of conspiring with those who wished to place the Duke de Montpensier upon the Spanish throne. The scheme having failed, Canovas went to Paris and became reconciled to Queen Isabella. He presided over the education of young Alfonso, then Prince of Asturias, and inspired him with comparatively liberal ideas. He was the soul of the movement which resulted in the proclamation of Alfonso XII, as King of Spain, by Gen. Martinez Campos, at Sagunto, on March 31, 1874. Canovas then assumed power, and was confirmed in the premiership by the young king, while still in Paris.

As the prime minister of the restored monarchy, Canovas discarded his comparatively liberal antecedents. He alienated the law for civil marriage, restricting the right of association, abolished the liberty of learning, deprived of their chairs at the university such men as Salmeron, Castellar and others, some of whom were banished, and consented to the return of the Jesuits to Spain. The summer of 1881, with the Holy See, was reestablished by King Alfonso.

With the exception of an interval of a few months in 1871, when Gen. Jovellar was called to office, Canovas continued holding the premiership until February, 1881, upon the return of Gen. Martinez Campos from the United States. He retired from office, to assume it again December 30, in that year, retaining it until February, 1888. Within this time the Carlos war was ended, and the Cuban revolution was brought to a close. The Catholic religion was declared the national religion, although the worship in private of other sects was tolerated, and so neither the Catholics nor the followers of other religions were satisfied.

In January, 1884, after the collapse of the cabinet of Gen. Jovellar, Canovas was again called to office, and he then assumed a more marked tendency to reactionary measures. In the summer of 1885 Canovas decided to exercise all his authority to prevent a war with Germany, as a result of the seizure of the Caroline Islands by Germany. He was a member of the cabinet, and was a member of the cabinet.

In November, 1885, King Alfonso died, and fearing a republican uprising, Canovas had a secret meeting with Sagasta, at the Paris, at which an understanding was reached between the rival leaders, by which, in the interest they claimed, of the country, they agreed always to act in a friendly manner toward each other, and peacefully take turns in power, until the king's successor reached his or her majority.

Canovas was in the opposition until June, 1890, when Sagasta resigned, and faithfully to their agreement, advised the Queen to call Canovas. During this new term of Canovas' rule, the colonial problem acquired its utmost gravity. The economic agitation in Cuba became intense. Cuban commissioners went to Madrid, but their request for reform in the island's tariff administration was not understood.

In December, 1892, Canovas resigned. During Sagasta's succeeding administration Canovas' opposition was the cause of the failure of the colonial reform projected by Martinez Campos, which is generally known as the "Cuban revolution." It had not been long before it had completely overthrown the Cuban war. Called to office again, and now for the last time, in March, 1893, shortly after the beginning of the war, his administration was an unbroken series of contradictions which hardly seemed him as a statesman.

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The effect upon Cuba. The death of the premier, Canovas, when taken in connection with the policy he was pursuing with reference to Cuba, is a very important event. It is a blow to the policy of the Spanish government, and it is a blow to the policy of the Cuban government.

It was, of course, desirable that an expression of opinion on the death, or rather its effect, should be had from members of the Cuban Junta, in this city, of which Senor Quesada is in charge, and Mr. Albertus was secretary. Both of these gentlemen are out of town, and will not return here for a few days yet.

The view of Col. Aguirre, who is a native-born patriot, are given below.

Senor Dupuy de Lome, Spanish minister, and most of his staff were not in the city, the minister being at Lenox, Mass., for the summer.

The members of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate who have given this matter most attention are also not in town just now. Representative Hitt, however, is in town, and is a member of the committee. He is a member of the committee, and is a member of the committee.

It may be interesting to relate, now, briefly the recent history of Senor Canovas. He was the leader of the Conservative party, enjoying the full confidence of the Queen Regent, and in full sympathy with her policy. He was a member of the cabinet, and was a member of the cabinet.

It was due to the stand of Castillo for Weyler that the latter was not recalled at the time of the Cuban crisis. He was a member of the cabinet, and was a member of the cabinet.

The Duke of Tetuan with a member of the Liberal party. As a result of that encounter the Liberals refused to participate in the Cortes. This precipitated a crisis, and the Queen Regent summoned Senor Sagasta to a conference. Sagasta insisted upon the retirement of Tetuan, and also, it is understood, upon the retirement of Weyler. The Queen, after careful consideration and a conference with the premier, in whom she had the fullest confidence, refused to submit to the demands of the Liberals.

The failure of Weyler's recent campaign for which so much was promised and expected, had put Weyler in bad odor with the minister, and it is stated that his recall was certain if a Spanish general of sufficient rank and reputation could be found willing to take his place.